

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A network facsimile, comprising:
  - a facsimile function operative to communicate with facsimiles via a public network using a facsimile transmission procedure;
  - an electronic mail transmission function operative to transmit an electronic mail containing an image in a prescribed format to at least one transmission destination connected to a local or a wide area network;
  - an electronic mail address memory configured to store an electronic mail address of a transmission destination when the network facsimile transmits an electronic mail to the transmission destination;
  - an electronic mail information storing device configured to store at least electronic mail information when the network facsimile receives the electronic mail information;
  - an electronic mail scrap determination device configured to determine if an electric mail sent from any one of the transmission destinations is to be scrapped when an electric mail address or a domain assigned to the electronic mail has not been stored in the electronic mail address memory; and
  - an electronic mail scrapping device configured to scrap an electronic mail stored in the electronic mail storing device in accordance with a determination of the electronic mail scrap determination device.

2. The network facsimile according to claim 1, further comprising a checking objective selecting device configured to select one of an electronic mail address and a domain as a checking objective checked by the electronic mail scrap determination device.

3. The network facsimile according to claim 2, wherein said checking objective is selected by the network facsimile in accordance with an electronic mail sender.

4. The network facsimile according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising:

a scrap information storing device configured to store scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

a scrap information checking device configured to check contents of the scrap information.

5. A network facsimile according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising:

a scrap information storing device configured to store scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

a scrap information transmitting device configured to transmit the scrap information to a recipient of the electronic mail via any one of the networks.

6. A method for scrapping undesirable electronic mail without opening in a network facsimile, said method comprising the steps of:

storing an electronic mail address of a transmission destination when the network facsimile transmits an electronic mail to the transmission destination via any one of public, local, and wide area networks;

storing at least electric mail information when the network facsimile receives the electronic mail information via the networks;

determining that an electric mail sent from any one of the transmission destinations is to be scrapped when one of an electric mail address and a domain assigned to the electric mail has not been stored; and

scrapping an electronic mail in accordance with the determination.

7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of selecting one of an electronic mail address and a domain as a checking objective in accordance with an electronic mail sender before performing the step of determining.

8. The method according to any one of claims 5 to 7, further comprising the steps of:

storing scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

checking contents of the scrap information before performing the step of scrapping.

9. The method according to any one of claims 5 to 7, further comprising the steps of:

storing scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

transmitting the scrap information to a recipient of the electronic mail via any one of the networks before performing the step of scrapping.

10. A network facsimile, comprising:  
means for communicating with facsimiles via a public network using a facsimile transmission procedure;

means for transmitting an electronic mail containing an image in a prescribed format to at least one transmission destination connected to any one of public, local, and wide area networks;

means for storing an electronic mail address of a transmission destination when the network facsimile transmits an electronic mail to the transmission destination;

means for storing at least electric mail information when the network facsimile receives the electronic mail information;

means for determining that an electric mail sent from any

one of the transmission destinations is to be scrapped when one of an electric mail address and a domain assigned to the electric mail has not been stored in the electronic mail address storing means; and

means for scrapping an electronic mail stored in the electronic mail storing means in accordance with the determination of the electronic mail scrap determination means.